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Mississippi School for the Blind reports

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Biennial report of the Trustees and Superintendent of the Institution of Learning for the Blind ... <1880-'81>-1882-'83

Biennial report of the Trustees and Superintendent of the Institution for the Instruction of the Blind to the Legislature of Mississippi, 1884-'85-1892 and 1893

Biennial report of the Trustees and Superintendent of the Institute for the Blind ... 1894 and 1895

LLMC 01-489t

INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES AND SUPERINTENDENT

OF THE

INSTITUTION FOR THE

INSTRUCTION OF THE BLIND,

TO THE

LEGISLATURE OF MISSISSIPPI,

FOR THE YEARS 1884-'85.

PRINTED BY AUTHORITY.

JACKSON, MISS.:
J. L. POWER, STATE PRINTER.

1886.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES.

To His Excellency Robert Lowry, Governor of Mississippi:

SIR: Herewith please find statement of the Superintendent for the Institution for the Blind, together with reports of Secretary of the Board of Trustees, showing in full the operations of the Institution since last report.

Very respectfully,

C. H. MANSHIP,
President Board Trustees.

Jackson, Dec. 29, 1885.

OFFICERS FOR 1884.

Gov. ROBERT LOWRY, Ex-Officio President.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

Hon C. H. MANSHIP,
Dr. P. T. BALEY,
GEO. LEMON, Esq.,
H. H. HINES, Esq.,
JACOB KAUSLER, Esq.

SUPERINTENDENT.

Dr. W. S. LANGLEY.

TEACHERS IN LITERARY DEPARTMENT.

Mrs. M. DOTY, Miss M. L. LANGLEY,
Miss FLORENCE GRAVES, Assistant.

TEACHER IN MUSIC.

Miss M. M. LANGLEY.

TEACHERS IN HANDICRAFT.

Miss R. SMITH, Miss ARIE JONES,
Mr. W. S. SKELLENGER.

MATRON.

Mrs. S. D. LANGLEY.

OFFICERS FOR 1885.

GOV. ROBERT LOWRY, Ex-Officio President.

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MR. W. S. SKELLENGER.

MATRON.

MRS. S. D. LANGLEY.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, Dec. 2, 1885.

To the Trustees of the Mississippi Institution for the Instruction of the Blind:

GENTLEMEN—In presenting this, my Third Biennial Report, I do not propose to go into a description of the routine work done in this Institution; it has been so often repeated, that a repetition seems unnecessary; especially at this time—as no change has been made in the organization of the school.

The progress of the pupils in the various branches, Literary, Musical, and Industrial, has been satisfactory—and the teachers have been, as ever, faithful and conscientious in the discharge of their various duties.

With the exception of the measles which prevailed here last spring, as an epidemic, causing the death of one of our pupils, the health of the school has been very good.

The number of pupils admitted last session was thirty-three (33); several more applied, but failed to make their appearance during the term. Since the fifth of October, the beginning of the present session, we have received thirty pupils, and have the promise of more in a short time.

While the condition of the treasury may be such as to put it out of the power of the Legislature to give us the means necessary to finish the building, and put up the necessary out-houses, I trust sufficient may be spared to make the shop more comfortable.

We also, as you know, are in great need of a kitchen and stable. The room in the basement now used for cooking purposes being immediately below one of the school-rooms, makes the heat in warm weather so intense as to render the school-room not only very uncomfortable, but unhealthy also. Our present stable is

is a mere shed, and in winter both our mules and cattle suffer for want of proper housing. In regard to the appropriation for the maintenance of the school I would respectfully suggest that sufficient be given us for the support of forty pupils, as we hope to receive that number during the session.

Every year demands are made upon the Support Fund beyond its legitimate purpose. Quite a number of our pupils are clothed entirely by the Institution, and as no sum has ever been provided for this purpose, we are obliged to draw the amount necessary from the sum set apart for the maintenance of the school. The heating apparatus in our new building being very defective, has been twice repaired. The cost of this work has also been paid from the Support Fund. Our table expenses have been very materially lessened by the produce of our garden, which supplies us with abundant and excellent vegetables, both winter and summer. For the past two years we have succeeded in raising all the sweet, and nearly all the Irish potatoes necessary for our use. Our own cows also supply all the milk used by the Institution.

I must again thank the General Managers of the Illinois Central, and Vicksburg and Meridian Railroads, for their kindness in allowing our pupils half rates on their several roads.

Thanks are due also for the following papers: The Jackson Clarion, State Ledger, New Mississippian, Goodson Gazette, Mutes' Companion, Yazoo Herald, Vicksburg Evening Post, Christian Advocate, and Boston Musical Record.

Our girls and boys were remembered by their kind friend, Mrs. Judge Campbell, at Christmas time—and her pretty and useful gifts were most highly appreciated.

We must also acknowledge a donation of five dollars from Mrs. Lee Hartmann, of Greenville, Miss., to the young pupils of the Institution.

Respectfully submitted,

W. S. LANGLEY,
Superintendent.

PRODUCE OF INSTITUTE GARDEN FOR 1884--'85-

Sweet potatoes	550 bushels.
Irish potatoes	250 bushels.
Turnips	257 bushels.
Cabbages	3,800 heads.
Other vegetables in proportion.	

PRODUCE OF DAIRY.

Milk	2,160 gallons.
Butter	700 pounds.

POULTRY.

Chickens	450
Turkeys	9

STOCK SOLD FROM INSTITUTE DURING 1884 AND 1885.

2 cows	$25 00 each.
1 cow	35 00
5 calves	7 00 each.
1 calf	8 00

Catalogue of Pupils, 1884.

FEMALES.	COUNTY.
Lacy Brown	Pontotoc.
Lorenna Brown	Pontotoc.
Mattie Blaylock	Lafayette.
Mary Crenshaw	Tallahatchie.
Debbie Dean	Pike.
Florence Graves	Hinds.
Joan Grantham	Simpson.
Dora Hickman	Lawrence.
Alice Holder	Copiah.
Arie Jones	Amite.
Nora Jones	Tippah.
Ida Marcum	Marshall.
Kittie Moore	Lafayette.
Zelda Myers	Noxubee.
Bettie Pruitt	Simpson.
Louisa Shumaker	Panola.
Kate Smith	Tippah.
Barbara Sligle	Panola.

MALES.	COUNTY.
Charles Anderson	Attala.
Napoleon Case	Lincoln.
Martin Croutch	Tippah.
Booth Drain	Carroll.
Willie English	Lee.
James English	Lee.
Benjamin Hickman	Lawrence.
James Harvey	Scott.
John Hobes	Yazoo.
Willie Jones	Lee.
Septimus Kiernan	Lauderdale.
Thomas Walne	Hinds.
Henry Walne	Hinds.
Thomas Ward	Webster.
Dennis Walker	Simpson.

CATALOGUE OF PUPILS, 1885.

FEMALES.	COUNTY.
Lorenna Brown	Pontotoc.
Mattie Blaylock	Lafayette.
Lida Burt	Lauderdale.
Mary Crenshaw	Tallahatchie.
Debbie Dean	Pike.
Katie Gates	Panola.
Florence Graves	Hinds.
Dora Hickman	Lawrence.
Alice Holder	Copiah.
Arie Jones	Amite.
Nora Jones	Tippah.
Ida Marcum	Marshall.
Kittie Moore	Lafayette.
Zelda Myers	Noxubee.
Bettie Pruitt	Simpson.
Nannie Rutherford	Tippah.
Josephine Rowell	Tippah.
Louisa Shumaker	Panola.
Kate Smith	Tippah.
Barbara Seigle	Panola.

MALES.	COUNTY.
Walter Boxley	Panola.
Napoleon Case	Lincoln.
Martin Croutch	Tippah.
Willis English	Lee.
James English	Lee.
Lena S. Furr	Marshall.
Benjamin Hickman	Lawrence.
James Harvey	Scott.
Willis Jones	Lee.
James Reed	Winston.
Thomas Walne	Hinds.
Henry Walne	Hinds.
Dennis Walker	Simpson.

BY-LAWS OF THE INSTITUTION

FOR THE

INSTRUCTION OF THE BLIND.

ARTICLE I.

DESIGN OF THE INSTITUTE.

SECTION 1. The design of the Institution shall be strictly educational, having reference only to the physical, mental and moral training of the young blind of both sexes residing in the State, and not to the providing of an Asylum for the aged and infirm, or a hospital for the treatment of disease.

SEC. 2. It shall be regarded as a department of public instruction, and therefore its privileges shall be tendered free of expense to all suitable applicants within the State.

SEC. 3. Pupils from without the State may, at the discretion of the Trustees, participate in the benefits of the Institution by paying a reasonable sum for their support and education.

ARTICLE II.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

SECTION 1. The Board of Trustees shall hold its regular meetings at the Institute, and the day of meeting shall be the second Monday in each month, unless otherwise ordered in special cases.

SEC. 2. The majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

SEC. 3. Special meetings may be called by the President, or by one of the Trustees and the Superintendent.

ARTICLE III.

THE SECRETARY.

SECTION 1. The Secretary of the Board shall be elected annually, by the Trustees, at their regular meetings in July, and be subject to removal at any time, for just cause.

SEC. 2. He shall issue all notices of the meetings of the Board, and keep full minutes of the proceedings, at each meeting, furnish attested copies of the minutes to those whom they concern, when appropriate to do so.

SEC. 3. He shall keep all accounts between the Institution and the State Treasury departments, and shall draw all warrants upon the Treasury of the State, for the allowances by the Board, which warrants shall be signed by the President and Secretary of the Board.

SEC. 4. He shall furnish, annually, to the Board, on the first day bf November, a detailed statement of the allowances made during the year, to accompany their annual report. He shall also furnish to the Board, for insertion in their annual report, a general statement of the expenses of the year, classified under appropriate heads.

SEC. 5. He shall carry on the financial correspondence of the Board, keeping copies of the letters, and carefully filing those received.

ARTICLE IV.

THE SUPERINTENDENT.

SECTION 1. The Board of Trustees shall elect the Superintendent of the Institution, and all necessary assistants; said officers to be removable at the pleasure of the Board.

SEC. 2. He shall be the executive head of the Institution, and the medium of communication between him and the Board of Trustees.

SEC. 3. He shall have the nomination subject to confirmation by the Board, of all the teachers and other assistant officers in the Institution, together with the attending physician, and shall be responsible for the faithful performance of their several duties, as well as for the advancement and good behavior of the pupils under their charge.

SEC. 4. He shall keep a register of all the pupils received into the Institution, embracing their names and ages, the causes and degrees of their blindness, the dates of their admission and discharge, and post-office address of their parents or guardians, and such other information concerning them as may be deemed important.

SEC. 5. In the school department, he shall prescribe the course and methods of instruction; the time to be devoted by teachers and pupils to the several branches of study, the apparatus and text books to be employed; the system of discipline, and other matters pertaining to the mental and moral improvement of the pupils.

SEC. 6. In the Work Department he shall prescribe the kinds of work to be learned by the pupils, and the number of hours per day to be devoted to labor; and shall pass frequently through the several shops and work rooms, for the purpose of keeping himself informed of the progress and deportment of the pupils. He shall direct the manner in which the female branch of the Work Department shall be conducted.

SEC. 7. He shall direct the purchase of the necessary apparatus for the work-shops.

SEC. 8. In the female branch of the Work Department, he shall purchase, or cause to be purchased, all needed apparatus and materials, and cause all moneys received from sales of manufactured articles to be paid over to him at the end of every month, keeping a strict account of his disbursements and receipts on account of the department.

SEC. 9. In the Household Department, he shall prescribe the number of domestics, and other assistants of a like character to be employed, fix the rate of compensation and pay their wages, presenting a monthly account to the Board for money thus paid out.

SEC. 10. He shall see that all pupils are comfortably and respectably clad, and when their parents, through inability or neglect, fail to supply them with the necessary clothing, he shall supply the same, and present the accounts therefor to the Board for allowance. He shall also defray the traveling expenses of such pupils as are not provided with means by their friends to return to their homes when required to leave at the close of the session or otherwise, and present his account for the same, as in the case of expenditures for clothing; and in case of the death of pupils at the In-

stitution, whose remains are not removed by their friends, he shall defray all necessary funeral expenses, presenting accounts for the same in like manner, as aforesaid.

SEC. 11. All other ordinary expenses, whether of the Household or School Department, shall be defrayed by the Superintendent, and accounts for the same laid before the Board for examination and allowance.

SEC. 12. Whatever furniture, apparatus, work, material or the like, to any considerable amount, shall be needed, the Superintendent shall so inform the Trustees, and if they shall consent to the expenditure, he shall purchase the requisite articles, and present the accounts to the Board for allowance.

SEC. 13. He shall have care of all the buildings and grounds of the Institution, and shall see that they be kept constantly in order, both as to cleanliness and minor repairs.

SEC. 14. He shall exercise due care in the promotion of the health of the pupils by requiring of them frequent and thorough ablutions, exercise in the open air, and entire abstinence from all injurious practices, and providing them with plain, substantial diet, together with comfortable dormitory accommodations, and in all cases of sickness shall see that they have prompt medical treatment, as well as every other necessary attention.

SEC. 15. He shall endeavor to imbue the minds of the pupils with strict principles of morality, requiring them to attend regularly upon public worship at such places as may be severally chosen by themselves or their friends.

SEC. 16. It shall be considered by him as essential features in the management of the Institution to prevent all unnecessary association between the male and female pupils, and he shall, therefore, see that they are never together excepting in the class-rooms during the hours of instruction, or in the presence of some officer.

SEC. 17. He shall make an annual report to the Trustees, embracing an account of the condition and progress of the several departments of the Institution, of the course of instruction pursued, and of the health and general improvement of the pupils.

SEC. 18. He shall have power to suspend any subordinate officer for incompetence, or dereliction of

duty until the next succeeding meeting of the Board, when he shall report the case for final adjustment by that body.

ARTICLE V.

THE SCHOOL SESSION.

SECTION 1. There shall be an annual session of the school, commencing on the first Monday in October, and closing on the 25th of June following.

SEC. 2. It shall be considered obligatory on all the pupils to spend the period of vacation at their respective homes.

SEC. 3. When, in any case, the friends of a pupil shall fail to remove him or her at the commencement of vacation, the Superintendent shall do so at the expense of the Institution.

ARTICLE VI.

THE ADMISSION AND DISCHARGE OF PUPILS.

SECTION 1. All blind persons residing in the State of Mississippi who are between the ages of nine and twenty-one years, and who are not incapacitated by physical, mental or moral infirmity for useful instruction, shall be considered eligible for admission as pupils of the Institution; but no one whose age does not come within the limits just prescribed, shall be received excepting in peculiar cases, and by special action of the Board of Trustees.

SEC. 2. The Board shall cause to be prepared an appropriate circular, setting forth the objects of the Institution, the regulations pertaining to pupils, and such other information as may be of interest to applicants, together with definite instructions as to the manner of procedure in making application; a copy of which circular shall be forwarded to the friends of any person wishing to become a pupil.

SEC. 3. The Superintendent shall have authority to admit all applicants who come within the prescribed rules as to age, etc., but shall refer all other cases to the Board.

SEC. 4. All the regular pupils shall be required to be in attendance at the commencement of each session, and to remain until its close, unless prevented by sickness or other exigency.

SEC. 5. There being no limit fixed by law for the time during which a pupil may remain in the Institution, it shall be left to the Superintendent and Trustees to determine in each individual case as to the proper time of dismissal.

SEC. 6. Pupils may be expelled by the Superintendent for misconduct, when they shall be adjudged by him to be incorrigible, or when, in his judgment, the good of the Institution demands it, but his action in such cases must be reported to the Board for final adjustment.

SEC. 7. Pupils who complete their course of instruction with credit to themselves, may be furnished with diploma by the Superintendent, signed by himself, and countersigned by the President and Secretary of the Board.

Approved by the Board of Trustees.

FINANCE REPORT.

Support fund appropriation for 1884...	$10,000 00	
Transportation fund appropriation for 1884.	125 00	
Improvement transferred to support fund.....	1,500 00	
	$11,625 00	
Am't overdrawn on above for 1884....	452 06—	$12,077 06

CR.

By expenditures for 1884.....		$12,077 06

Support fund appropriation for 1885....	$10,000 00	
Transportation fund appropriation for 1885..... ...	125 00	
	$10,125 00	
Less amount overdrawn for 1884.....	452 06—	$9,672 94

CR.

By expenditures for 1885.....	$9,195 21	
By balance incidental on 1886.....	477 73—	$9,672 94

RECAPITULATION.

Total appropriations, etc., for 1884-'5.....		$21,750 00
Total expenditures for 1884-'5.....	$21,272 27	
Balance for incidental on 1886.....	477 73—	$21,750 00

NOTE.—All expenditures have been made by warrants drawn on W. L. Hemingway, State Treasurer, and Ex-Officio Treasurer State Institutions, and receipts for the same are in the hands of the Secretary.

The disbursements in 1884, being in excess of those made in 1885, as as shown above, is accounted for by the fact that the unsettled accounts for 1883, amounting to about $2,000, were paid out of the appropriations for 1884, during that year; and the unpaid accounts of 1885, amounting to several hundred dollars to be paid out of the appropriations for the years 1886-'7, make the average expenses for the two years proper, about $10,000 each.

ITEMIZED STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES,

For 1884 and 1885.

Brooms, mattresses, etc	$12 00
Blacksmiths and carpenters	49 80
Butter, eggs, chickens, etc.	273 32
Beef, fresh.	1,628 26
Clothing for pupils.	470 78
Coal	655 00
Drugs, medicines, and garden seeds.	297 69
Furniture	22 00
Funeral expenses of pupil.	25 00
Fruit trees	2 20
Foundry.	28 25
Gas fixtures.	534 40
Gas.	646 40
Groceries and provisions.	5,470 57
Hardware, cutlery, etc.	358 46
House furnishing	172 87
Insurance.	500 00
Improvements and lumber	119 85
Manure and cotton seed	142 14
Postage, express, and stationery.	184 08
Repairs on clock and machine.	4 50
Repairs on furnace.	230 00
Salaries.	5,109 99
Tuning pianos.	12 50
Transportation of pupils	250 00
Telephone Company	95 36
Wood.	175 63
Wages and labor	3,801 22
Balance drawn for incidental expenses for January and February, 1886.	477 73
Total	$21,750.00